THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC MAGAZINE!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Fantastic Four
43 OCT
MARVEL POP ART PRODUCTIONS 12¢
"LO, THERE SHALL BE AN ENDING!"

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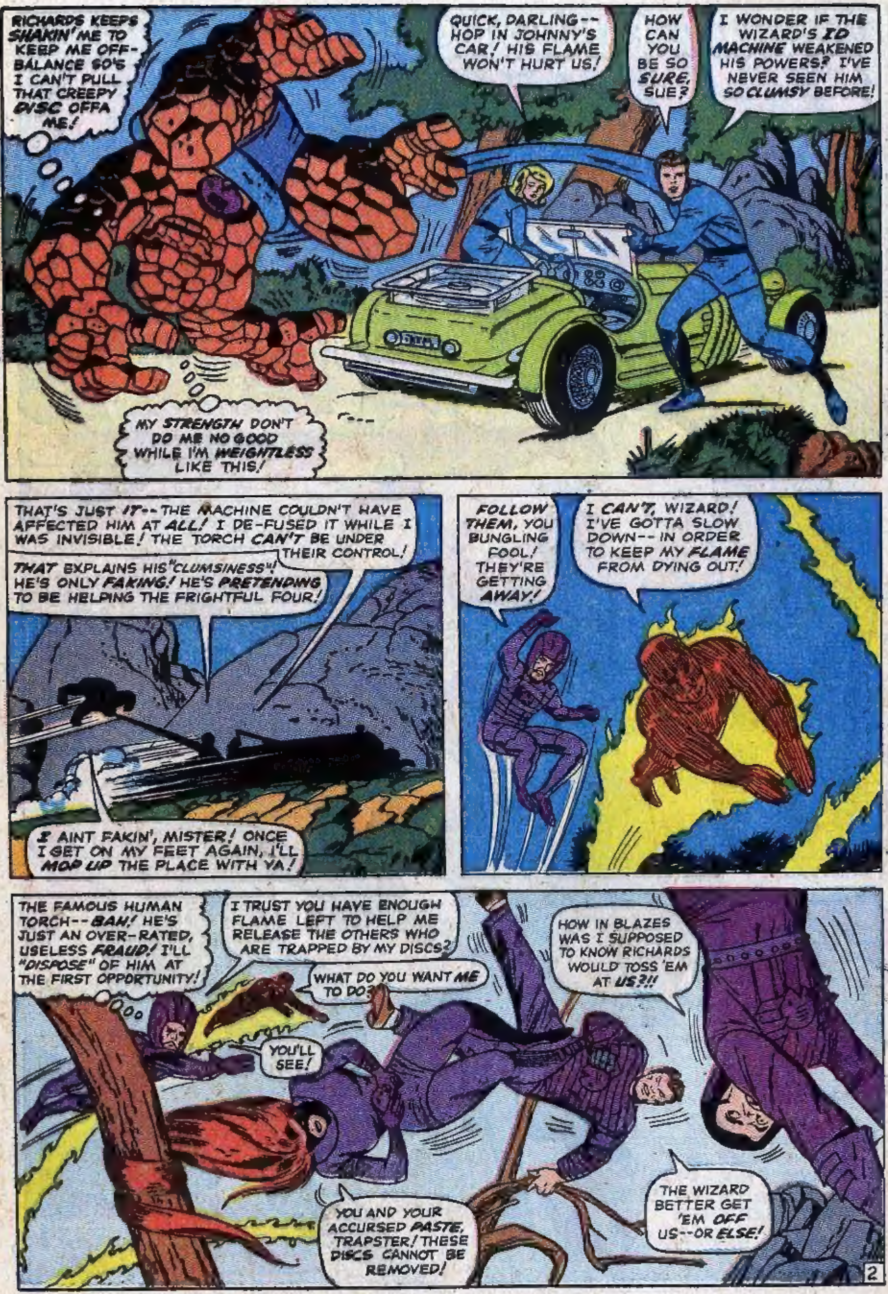
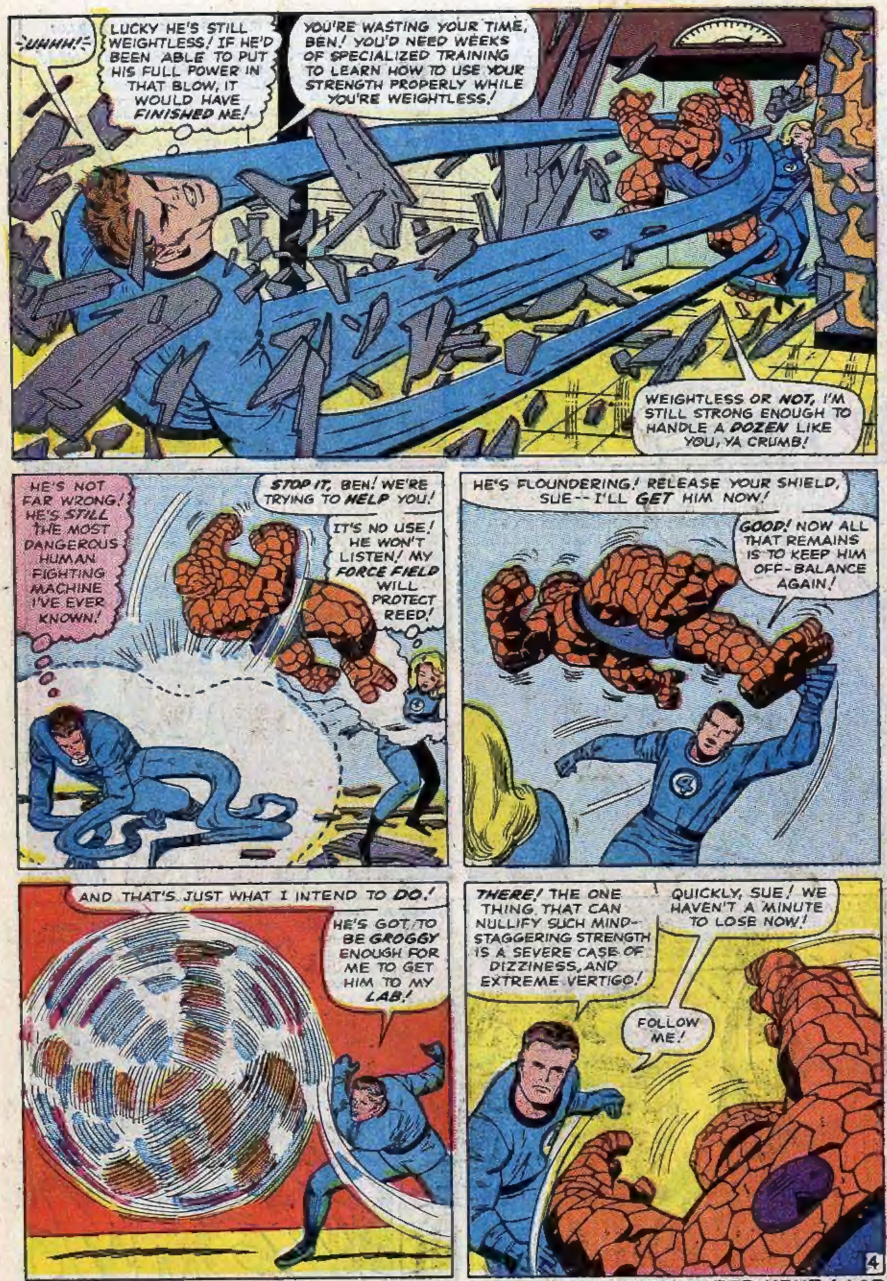
THE FABULOUS FANTASTIC FOUR FINALLY LEARN...
"LO! THERE SHALL BE AN ENDING!"
TORCH! LOWER YOUR FLAME, YOU JUVENILE INCOMPETENT! INSTEAD OF STOPPING THEM, YOU'RE BLAZING AN ESCAPE ROUTE THEY CAN FOLLOW!
CAN'T HELP IT! I'M TRYIN' NOT TO HIT THE THING!
OUR LESSON FOR TODAY.....
TRAPPED BY THEIR DEADLY COUNTERPARTS, THE FRIGHTFUL FOUR, REED AND SUE ATTEMPT A DESPERATE ESCAPE WITH THE HELPLESS THING, WHILE THE FLAMING HUMAN TORCH LEADS THE WIZARD IN HOT* PURSUIT OF HIS ERSTWHILE PARTNERS!
*NO PUN INTENDED!
JUST WAIT! I'LL GET THIS BLASTED ANTI-GRAV DISC OFFA ME SOONER OR LATER--AND WHEN I DO--!
DARINGLY WRITTEN BY STAN LEE
DAZZINGLY DRAWN BY JACK KIRBY
DRAMATICALLY INKED BY VINCE COLLETTA
DOCILY LETTERED BY ARTIE SIMEK
AND NOW...
THE START OF ANOTHER SENSATIONAL SPELLBINDER FROM MIGHTY MARVEL!



RICHARDS KEEPS SHAKIN' ME TO KEEP ME OFF-BALANCE SO'S I CAN'T PULL THAT CREEPY DISC OFFA ME!
QUICK, DARLING-- HOP IN JOHNNY'S CAR! HIS FLAME WON'T HURT US!
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE, SUE?
I WONDER IF THE WIZARD'S ID MACHINE WEAKENED HIS POWERS? I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM SO CLUMSY BEFORE!
MY STRENGTH DON'T DO ME NO GOOD WHILE I'M WEIGHTLESS LIKE THIS!
THAT'S JUST IT-- THE MACHINE COULDN'T HAVE AFFECTED HIM AT ALL! I DE-FUSED IT WHILE I WAS INVISIBLE! THE TORCH CAN'T BE UNDER THEIR CONTROL!
THAT EXPLAINS HIS "CLUMSINESS"! HE'S ONLY FAKING! HE'S PRETENDING TO BE HELPING THE FRIGHTFUL FOUR!
I AINT FAKIN', MISTER! ONCE I GET ON MY FEET AGAIN, I'LL MOP UP THE PLACE WITH YA!
FOLLOW THEM, YOU BUNGLING FOOL! THEY'RE GETTING AWAY!
I CAN'T, WIZARD! I'VE GOTTA SLOW DOWN-- IN ORDER TO KEEP MY FLAME FROM DYING OUT!
THE FAMOUS HUMAN TORCH-- BAH! HE'S JUST AN OVER-RATED, USELESS FRAUD! I'LL "DISPOSE" OF HIM AT THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY!
I TRUST YOU HAVE ENOUGH FLAME LEFT TO HELP ME RELEASE THE OTHERS WHO ARE TRAPPED BY MY DISCS?
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
YOU'LL SEE!
HOW IN BLAZES WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW RICHARDS WOULD TOSS 'EM AT US?!!
YOU AND YOUR ACCURSED PASTE, TRAPSTER! THESE DISCS CANNOT BE REMOVED!
THE WIZARD BETTER GET 'EM OFF US--OR ELSE!

THEY MIGHT TRY TO TURN AGAINST ME BECAUSE OF THIS! THAT'S WHY I WANT YOU BESIDE ME, TORCH!
HOLD STILL, ALL OF YOU! MY MASTER DISC REVERSER WILL NEUTRALIZE THE ANTI-GRAVITY EFFECTS OF YOUR DISCS!
THEN, AS THE THREE RAGING MENACES REGAIN THEIR FOOTING...
THOSE DISCS ARE TOO DANGEROUS! THEY CAN TOO EASILY BE TURNED AGAINST US!
HOW TRUE, MY FAIR MEDUSA! THEY GIVE ME THE RIGHT ALWAYS TO CALL MYSELF YOUR LEADER!
SOME LEADER! LOOK HOW EASY RICHARDS AND THAT DAME GOT AWAY FROM US!
THEY MADE US LOOK LIKE BUSH LEAGUERS!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE, TORCH! BURN THIS DISC OFF ME! CAREFUL-- CAREFUL, YOU CLUMSY CLOD!
WATCH WHAT YOU CALL ME, LADY! I'M NOT USEDTA BEIN' TALKED TO LIKE THAT!
WELL, START GETTIN' USED TO IT! YOU WERE JUST A BIG FAT ZERO WHEN WE NEEDED YA, PUNK!
YEAH! ALL YOU DID WAS GET IN OUR WAY!
IT'S ALMOST AS IF HE WERE TRYING TO HELP RICHARDS AND THE GIRL!
HMMM... A MOST INTERESTING PREMISE, MY DEAR!
WELL, ALL YOU DID WAS DELAY THE INEVITABLE OUTCOME! THEY CAN'T KEEP THE THING HELPLESS FOREVER--AND ONCE HE BREAKS FREE, HE'LL DESTROY THEM!
AND, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN A PRIVATE ELEVATOR AT THE FAMOUS BAXTER BUILDING...
YOU AINT KEEPIN' ME A PRISONER! I'LL BUST OUT 'N CLOBBER YA ALL!
WHOMM!



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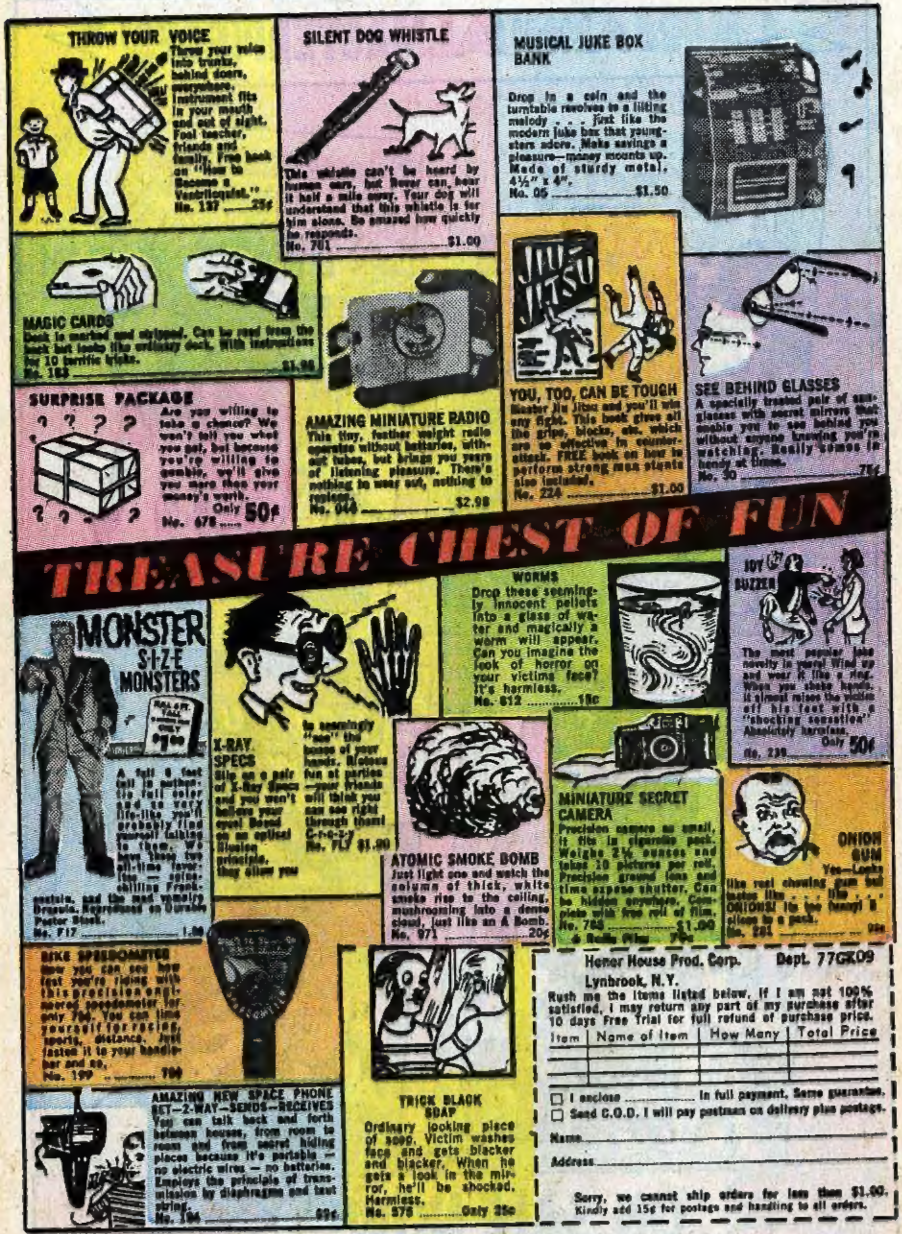
WAH-HOOO!
KOREA
ON SALE NOW!



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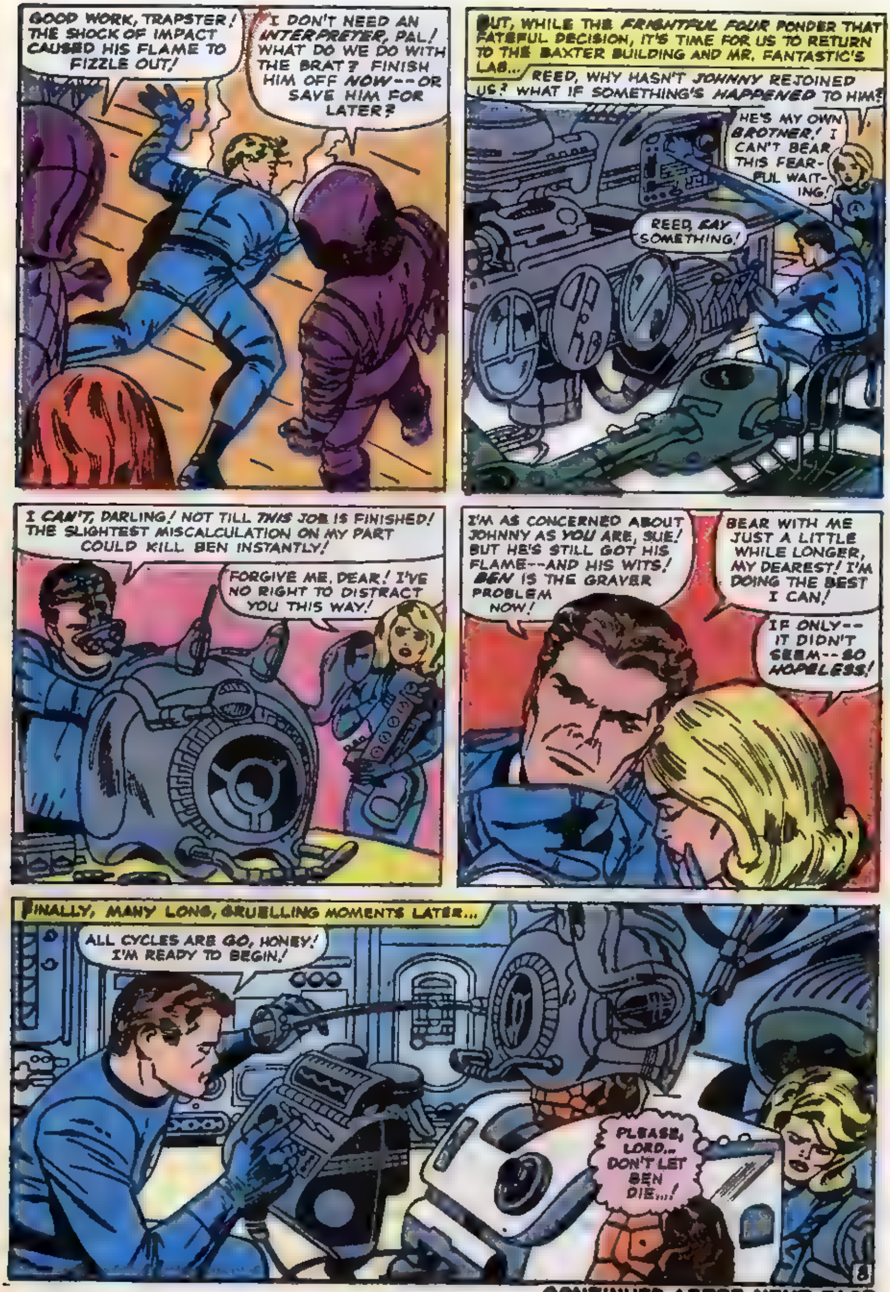
THEN, MINUTES LATER...
WE'VE DONE IT! NOTHING SHORT OF AN ATOMIC EXPLOSION CAN SHATTER THAT ESCAPE-PROOF EXPERIMENTAL LAB!
REED-- WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO TO HIM?
FIRST, I'LL FEED HIM A HEAVY CONCENTRATION OF SLEEP GAS TO PUT HIM UNDER!
IT'LL BE MORE MERCIFUL THAT WAY!
MORE MERCIFUL?? IN THE NAME OF HEAVEN, DARLING-- WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING??
WE CAN'T LET HIM REMAIN AS HE IS-- AN EVIL, DEADLY PARODY OF HIS NORMAL SELF!
THE ONLY ANSWER IS TO FIND SOME WAY TO READJUST HIS MIND--TO UNDO THE EFFECTS OF THE WIZARD'S DEVILISH ID MACHINE!
BUT, THAT MEANS I MUST TAMPER WITH HIS BRAIN-- AND, IF I MAKE THE SLIGHTEST MISCALCULATION-- IT WILL MEAN HIS CERTAIN DEATH!
THEN, AS REED PREPARES TO UNDERTAKE ONE OF THE MOST DESPERATE GAMBLES OF HIS LIFE...
STAY WHERE YOU ARE, TORCH--AND DON'T TRY TO FLAME ON, IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YOU!
WHY? WHAT'S THE WIZARD DOING IN THAT LOCKED ROOM? WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE, ANYWAY?
CLAM UP 'N WAIT, HALF-PINT! HE'LL TELL YA WHEN HE'S GOOD 'N READY!
5

WHILE, BEHIND THE CLOSED DOORS, WE FIND...
HAH! JUST AS I SUSPECTED! MY ID MACHINE HAS BEEN DE-FUSED! IT ISN'T OPERATING PROPERLY!
THEN THE TORCH HAS BEEN FAKING! HE ISN'T UNDER YOUR CONTROL!
NOBODY CAN DECEIVE THE WIZARD! I'LL MAKE HIM RUE THE DAY HE TRIED IT! I'LL--STOP! WHAT ARE YOU DOING??
SAVING YOUR LIFE, PERHAPS! HE'S STILL TOO DANGEROUS FOR YOU TO BATTLE ALONE! MEDUSA SHALL HELP YOU!
AND SO...
WELL, WHAT'S THE VERDICT, BEAUTIFUL? DO I HOLSTER MY PASTE-PISTOL-- OR USE IT?
I SUGGEST YOU HOLSTER IT FOR NOW, TRAPSTER! THERE'S NO NEED FOR US TO DO ANYTHING RASH!
NOW WILL YOU TELL ME WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
ALL IN GOOD TIME, TORCH... ALL IN GOOD TIME!
C'MON, GIT IT OVER WITH! CAT-'N-MOUSE GAMES ARE FOR KIDS!
YOU'RE QUITE RIGHT, SANDMAN! AND THIS LITTLE GAME WILL BE ENDED VERY SOON!
THERE!! I DID IT!
AND HE EXPECTED NOTHING!
PERFECT TIMING, MEDUSA!
SO, YOU'RE WISE TO ME, HUH?
6

SANDMAN! QUICK-- GET HIM BEFORE HE CAN BECOME THE TORCH AGAIN!
I'LL HOLD HIM FOR YOU! NOW, SANDMAN --NOW!
YOU WERE ALL TOO SLOW! HE'S STARTIN' TO BLAZE FASTER'N I CAN COVER HIM WITH SAND! LOOK OUT!
FLAME ON!
TAKE COVER! HE BURNED THRU HIS PASTE BONDS BEFORE THEY COULD SOLIDIFY!
IN A WAY, WE'RE LUCKY HE STILL IS THE OLD TORCH! HE'S UNDER OATH NEVER TO BURN ANYONE WITH HIS BLASTED FLAME!
THAT GIVES ME A CHANCE TO REACH FOR A NEW TRAP-WEAPON!
NOW-- WHILE HIS BACK IS TURNED!
THIS MINIATURE RESONANCE CAP WILL HAVE THE EFFECT OF DYNAMITE ON AN OIL FIRE WHEN IT HITS HIM!
I GOT 'IM!
7



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30 Job Experience Projects Included

CTI lessons are written in simple English and fully illustrated. Thousands have learned auto mechanics through lessons alone. To make it still easier to apply "lesson learning" to actual auto repairing, and to build your confidence, CTI provides each student with 30 Job Experience Projects. This practical instruction will encourage you to begin repairing cars as you train, and earn money in spare time. It will help you get experience.

Student letters prove training works

"Have started my own tune-up and brake shop."—G. Gunz, Cal. "Am proud I finished course. Have two job offers."—Barden Vance, Ind. "Am working as a mechanic and earn twice what I used to. Made $25 a week as I trained."—Jerome Slowik, Ill. "Am now a senior auto mechanic. Made $800 during training."—Ronald Wharton, Ind.

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You have been thinking of improving yourself. You would like to get a technical education, so that you can qualify for a better job and greater security. Why not consider the automotive field, one of America's greatest? Over 7 million cars and trucks are sold each year. These, added to the 57 million vehicles already in use, provide a rich source of rewarding jobs for trained mechanics. The pay is well above average, work is steady and opportunities exist in almost any community.

Train at home for a better job or your own business

You don't need a formal education or previous experience to master auto mechanics. You can learn at home by devoting a few hours each evening and week-end to training. CTI, one of America's foremost auto training schools, will send lessons that are easy to read and understand. You'll receive tools and instruments, as well as shop projects, to help you gain experience as you learn. You keep your present job and switch to your new occupation when you are ready.

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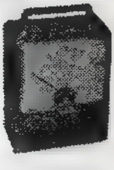

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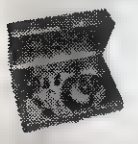

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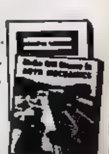

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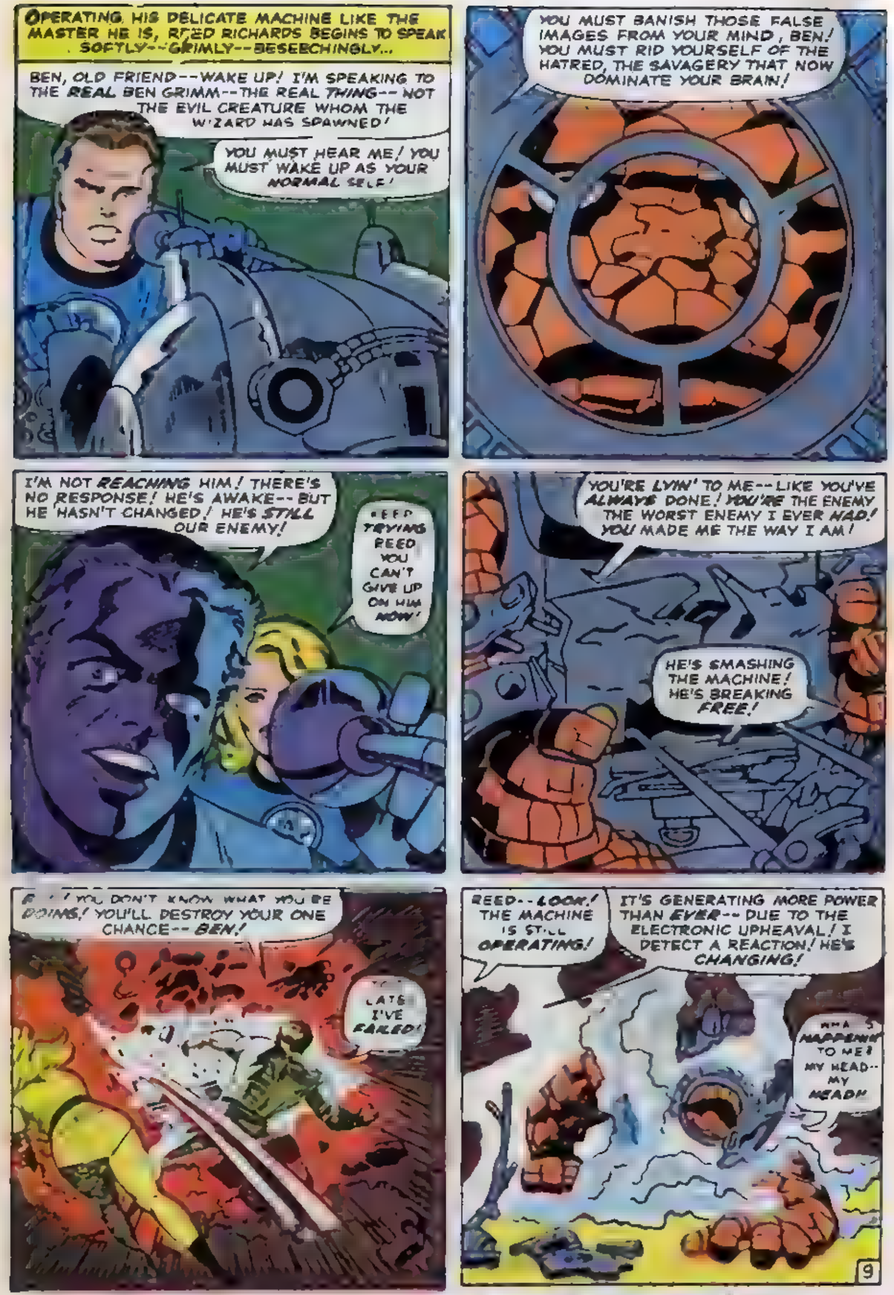
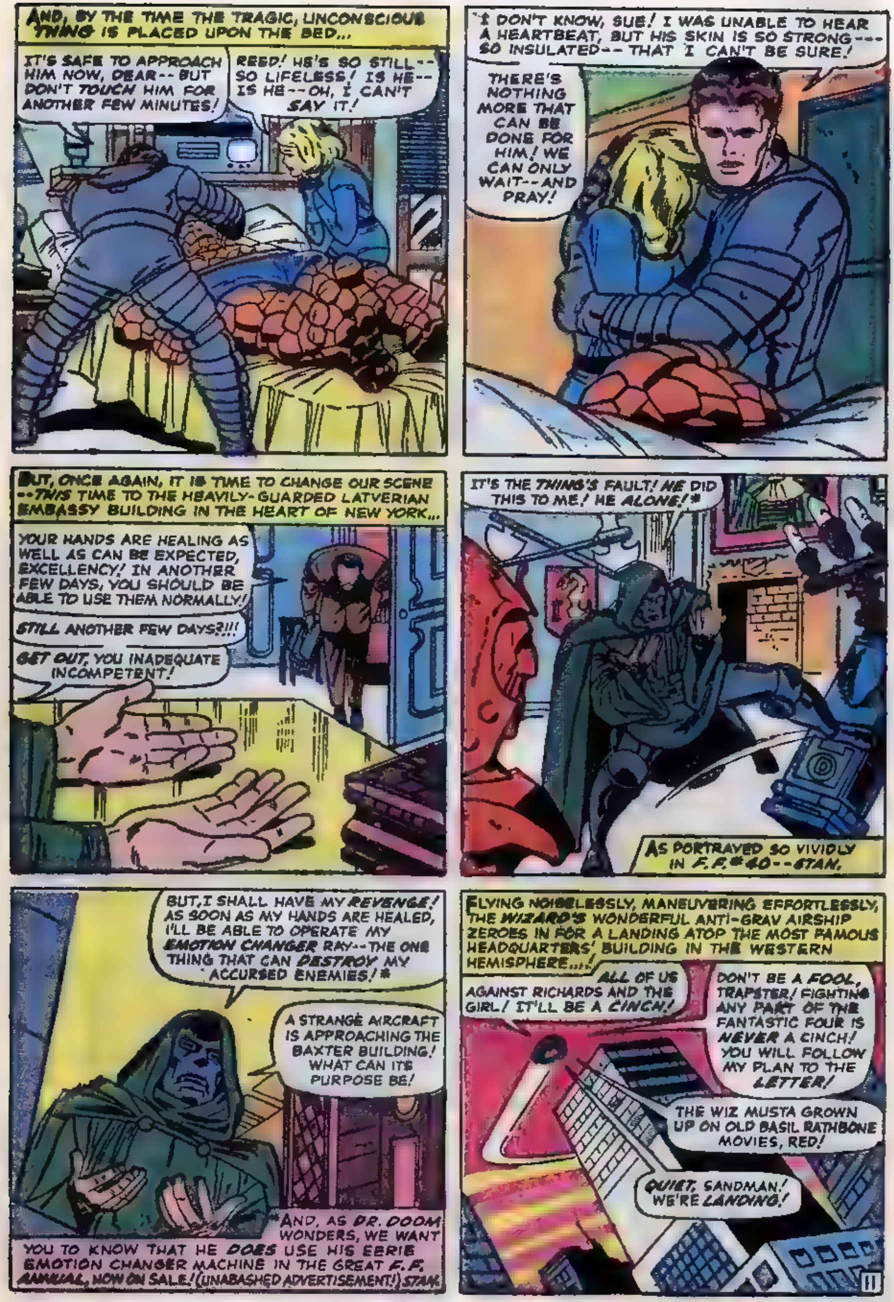
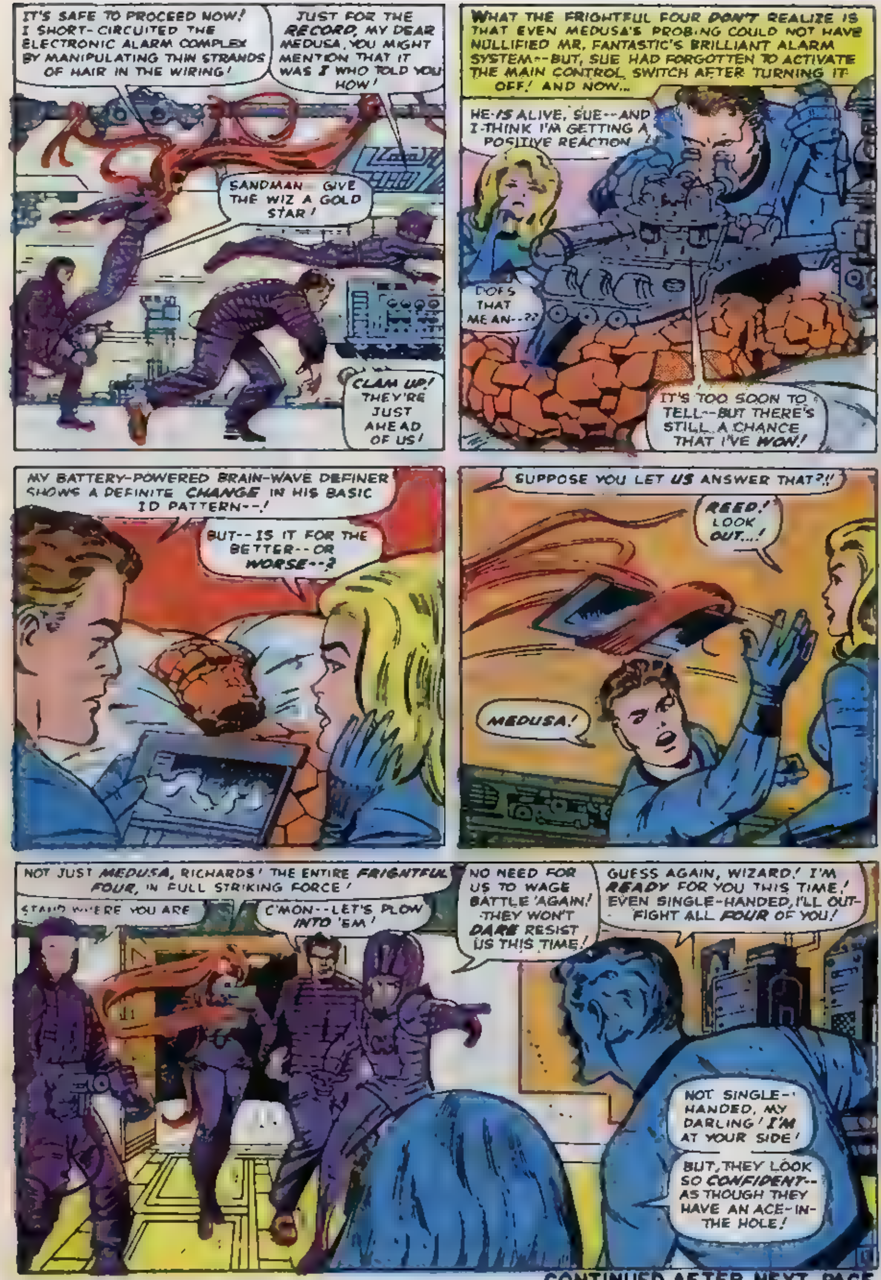

OPERATING HIS DELICATE MACHINE LIKE THE MASTER HE IS, REED RICHARDS BEGINS TO SPEAK SOFTLY--GRIMLY--BESEECHINGLY...
BEN, OLD FRIEND--WAKE UP! I'M SPEAKING TO THE *REAL* BEN GRIMM--THE REAL *THING*--NOT THE EVIL CREATURE WHOM THE WIZARD HAS SPAWNED!
YOU MUST HEAR ME! YOU MUST WAKE UP AS YOUR *NORMAL* SELF!
YOU MUST BANISH THOSE FALSE IMAGES FROM YOUR MIND, BEN! YOU MUST RID YOURSELF OF THE HATRED, THE SAVAGERY THAT NOW DOMINATE YOUR BRAIN!
I'M NOT *REACHING* HIM! THERE'S NO RESPONSE! HE'S AWAKE--BUT HE HASN'T CHANGED! HE'S *STILL* OUR ENEMY!
KEEP *TRYING* REED. YOU CAN'T GIVE UP ON HIM *NOW*!
YOU'RE *LYIN'* TO ME--LIKE YOU'VE *ALWAYS* DONE! *YOU'RE* THE ENEMY THE WORST ENEMY I EVER *HAD*! *YOU* MADE ME THE WAY I AM!
HE'S SMASHING THE MACHINE! HE'S BREAKING *FREE*!
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE *DOING*! YOU'LL DESTROY YOUR ONE CHANCE--*BEN*!
LATE! I'VE *FAILED*!
REED--*LOOK*! THE MACHINE IS STILL *OPERATING*!
IT'S GENERATING *MORE POWER* THAN *EVER*--DUE TO THE ELECTRONIC UPHEAVAL! I DETECT A REACTION! HE'S *CHANGING*!
TO ME? MY HEAD--MY *HEAD*!
9

THIS IS WHAT I FEARED! EVEN IF THE EXPERIMENT WORKED, THE AFTER-EFFECTS MIGHT PROVE FATAL!
SAVE HIM! DO SOMETHING --ANYTHING!
IF I CAN REMOVE THAT HELMET FROM HIS HEAD...
COVER ME WITH YOUR FORCE FIELD, DARLING! I'VE GOT TO REACH HIM!
DON'T FALTER, SUE! DON'T WEAKEN! I'M SURROUNDED BY THOUSANDS OF VOLTS OF UNHARNESSED CURRENT!
THEN, AS THE DESPERATE ADVENTURER REACHES HIS STRICKEN FRIEND...
EVEN THRU THE FORCE FIELD, THE SHOCK OF TOUCHING HIM IS ALMOST UNBEARABLE! BUT I'VE GOT TO HOLD ON-- I'VE GOT TO!
MY MENTAL SHIELD ISN'T STRONG ENOUGH! HE'LL NEVER MAKE IT! UNLESS--!
THE MAIN CONTROL SWITCH! WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF IT SOONER? IT'LL CUT OFF ALL THE POWER!
IF ONLY I'M NOT TOO LATE!
YOU-- SAVED ME! ANOTHER SECOND-- WOULD HAVE BEEN--TOO LATE!
BUT-- WE'RE NOT FINISHED YET! MY SPACE SUIT--GET IT--QUICKLY--!
SPACE SUIT?
THEN, IN A MATTER OF MINUTES
STAY BACK! HE'S STILL BATHED IN DEADLY COSMIC WAVES! THAT'S WHY I NEED THE PROTECTION OF THIS SUIT!!
BUT THEY'RE FADING QUICKLY --SO FOLLOW BEHIND ME!


AND, BY THE TIME THE TRAGIC, UNCONSCIOUS THING IS PLACED UPON THE BED...
IT'S SAFE TO APPROACH HIM NOW, DEAR-- BUT DON'T TOUCH HIM FOR ANOTHER FEW MINUTES!
REED! HE'S SO STILL-- SO LIFELESS! IS HE-- IS HE--OH, I CAN'T SAY IT!
I DON'T KNOW, SUE! I WAS UNABLE TO HEAR A HEARTBEAT, BUT HIS SKIN IS SO STRONG--- SO INSULATED-- THAT I CAN'T BE SURE!
THERE'S NOTHING MORE THAT CAN BE DONE FOR HIM! WE CAN ONLY WAIT--AND PRAY!
BUT, ONCE AGAIN, IT IS TIME TO CHANGE OUR SCENE --THIS TIME TO THE HEAVILY-GUARDED LATVERIAN EMBASSY BUILDING IN THE HEART OF NEW YORK...
YOUR HANDS ARE HEALING AS WELL AS CAN BE EXPECTED, EXCELLENCY! IN ANOTHER FEW DAYS, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO USE THEM NORMALLY!
STILL ANOTHER FEW DAYS?!!!
GET OUT, YOU INADEQUATE INCOMPETENT!
IT'S THE THING'S FAULT! HE DID THIS TO ME! HE ALONE!*
*AS PORTRAYED SO VIVIDLY IN F.F. #40--STAN.
BUT, I SHALL HAVE MY REVENGE! AS SOON AS MY HANDS ARE HEALED, I'LL BE ABLE TO OPERATE MY EMOTION CHANGER RAY--THE ONE THING THAT CAN DESTROY MY ACCURSED ENEMIES!*
A STRANGE AIRCRAFT IS APPROACHING THE BAXTER BUILDING! WHAT CAN ITS PURPOSE BE!
*AND, AS DR. DOOM WONDERS, WE WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT HE DOES USE HIS EERIE EMOTION CHANGER MACHINE IN THE GREAT F.F. ANNUAL, NOW ON SALE! (UNABASHED ADVERTISEMENT!) STAN
FLYING NOISELESSLY, MANEUVERING EFFORTLESSLY, THE WIZARD'S WONDERFUL ANTI-GRAV AIRSHIP ZEROES IN FOR A LANDING ATOP THE MOST FAMOUS HEADQUARTERS' BUILDING IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE...!
ALL OF US AGAINST RICHARDS AND THE GIRL! IT'LL BE A CINCH!
DON'T BE A FOOL, TRAPSTER! FIGHTING ANY PART OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR IS NEVER A CINCH! YOU WILL FOLLOW MY PLAN TO THE LETTER!
THE WIZ MUSTA GROWN UP ON OLD BASIL RATHBONE MOVIES, RED!
QUIET, SANDMAN! WE'RE LANDING!
11

OKAY, BIG BRAIN! NOW THAT WE GOT HERE, HOW DO WE GET IN? RICHARDS AINT LIKELY TO LEAVE ANY DOORS WIDE OPEN WITH WELCOME SIGNS ON 'EM!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN YOUR OWN UNIQUE POWERS, SANDMAN? YOU WILL ALTER YOUR BODY MOLECULES TO THE THINNEST SAND PARTICLES, AND FILTER THRU ANY CRACKS IN THE ROOF, NO MATTER HOW SMALL MAY BE!
WELL DONE! NOW QUICKLY--REVERSE THE PROCESS AND MAKE YOUR BODY ROCK HARD BEFORE THEY CAN BE ALERTED!
THEN WE WILL FOLLOW PLAN "A"! WE MUST NOT FAIL!
I GOTTA HAND IT TO THE WIZARD! I MAY HATE THE SIGHT OF 'IM, BUT HE'S AS DANGEROUS AS THEY COME!
GOOD, GOOD! KEEP APPLYING MAXIMUM PRESSURE! THE ROOF IS BEGINNING TO CRACK! THAT'S IT--JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE--!
AWRIGHT! AWRIGHT! WHEN I NEED A BACKSEAT KIBITZER, I'LL ASK FOR ONE!
PERFECT! YOU PEELED THE LAST LAYER OF STEEL BACK LIKE A BANANA SKIN!
NOW WE'RE READY FOR OUR GREATEST ATTACK--OUR FINAL VICTORY!
12



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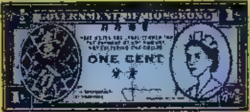

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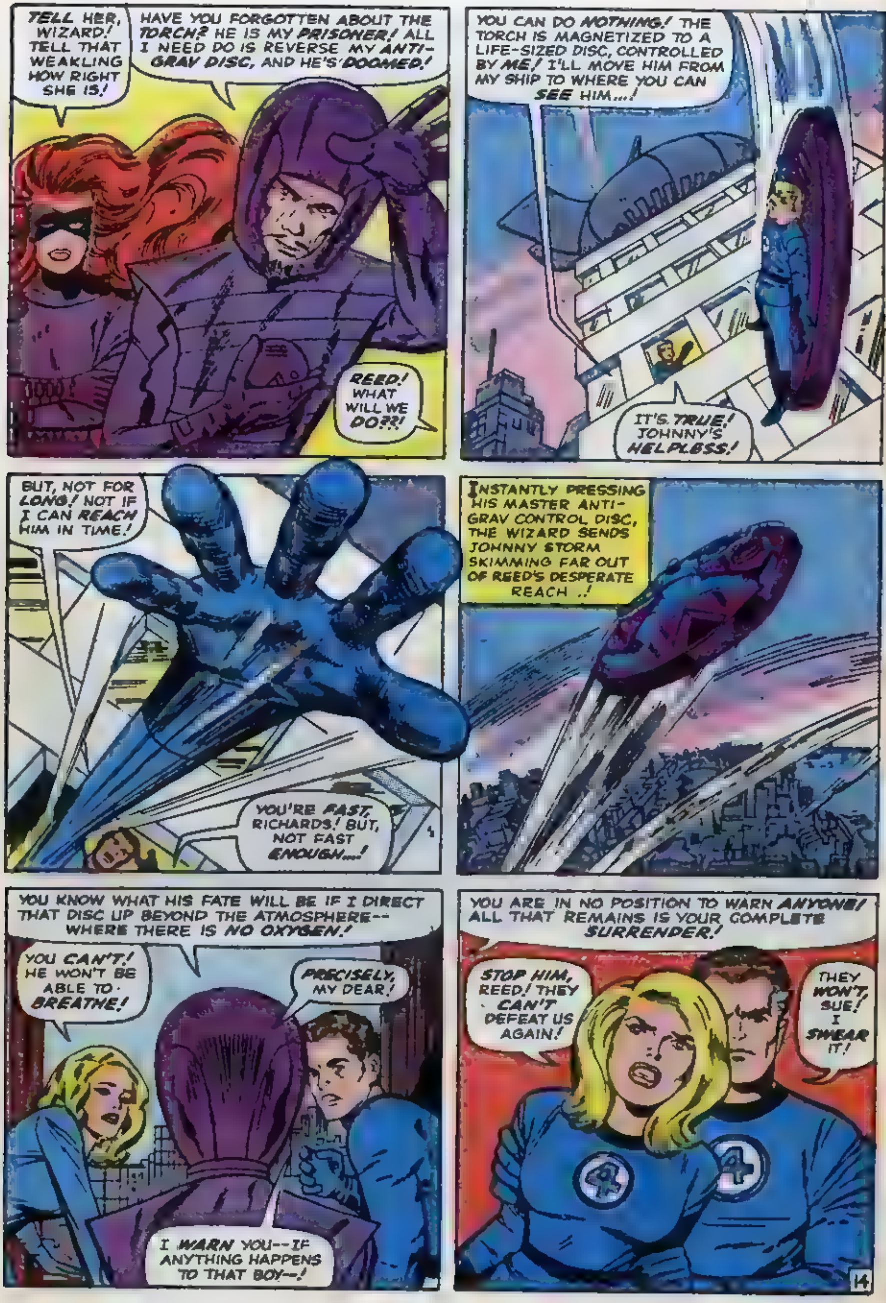

TELL HER, WIZARD! TELL THAT WEAKLING HOW RIGHT SHE IS!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE TORCH? HE IS MY PRISONER! ALL I NEED DO IS REVERSE MY ANTI-GRAV DISC, AND HE'S DOOMED!
REED! WHAT WILL WE DO??!
YOU CAN DO NOTHING! THE TORCH IS MAGNETIZED TO A LIFE-SIZED DISC, CONTROLLED BY ME! I'LL MOVE HIM FROM MY SHIP TO WHERE YOU CAN SEE HIM...!
IT'S TRUE! JOHNNY'S HELPLESS!
BUT, NOT FOR LONG! NOT IF I CAN REACH HIM IN TIME!
YOU'RE FAST, RICHARDS! BUT, NOT FAST ENOUGH...!
INSTANTLY PRESSING HIS MASTER ANTI-GRAV CONTROL DISC, THE WIZARD SENDS JOHNNY STORM SKIMMING FAR OUT OF REED'S DESPERATE REACH ..!
YOU KNOW WHAT HIS FATE WILL BE IF I DIRECT THAT DISC UP BEYOND THE ATMOSPHERE-- WHERE THERE IS NO OXYGEN!
YOU CAN'T! HE WON'T BE ABLE TO BREATHE!
PRECISELY, MY DEAR!
I WARN YOU--IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO THAT BOY--!
YOU ARE IN NO POSITION TO WARN ANYONE! ALL THAT REMAINS IS YOUR COMPLETE SURRENDER!
STOP HIM, REED! THEY CAN'T DEFEAT US AGAIN!
THEY WON'T, SUE! I SWEAR IT!
14

YOUR MELODRAMATIC OATHS OF VENGEANCE HAVE BECOME A LAUGHING STOCK WITH US, RICHARDS! THEY DO NOT IMPRESS THE FRIGHTFUL FOUR!
THESE ARE THE SURRENDER TERMS WE OFFER--YOU WILL SUBMIT TO TREATMENT BY THE WIZARD'S ID MACHINE, SO THAT YOU, TOO, WILL BECOME OUR HELPLESS SERVANTS!
YOU HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE!
IT CAN'T END LIKE THIS! THERE MUST BE A WAY TO SAVE JOHNNY --AND TO STRIKE BACK AT THEM! THINK, MY DARLING--YOU'VE NEVER FAILED US YET!
AND I WON'T FAIL NOW! THE FIRST GAMBIT IS YOURS, SUE! PLAN "R"-NOW!
UNWHH-!
GOOD GIRL! SHE WASN'T EXPECTING AN ATTACK BY INVISIBLE FORCE SPHERES!
NOW PROTECT YOURSELF WHILE I ATTACK THE OTHERS!
TOO LATE, RICHARDS! YOU FORGOT HOW QUICKLY I CAN HURL MY HAIR WITH WHIPLASH FORCE!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, REED! DO WHAT YOU MUST--!
NO! THERE'S ANOTHER WAY TO BEAT THEM! STAY BACK!
HOLD HER, SANDMAN! I'LL TAKE OVER NOW!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE STOPPED US! I'D HAVE BEATEN HER SOMEHOW!
HAVE YOU BOTH FORGOTTEN THE TORCH? HIS MOMENTS ARE NUMBERED!
FIRST, BRING THE TORCH BACK TO THE WINDOW-- THEN WE'LL DEAL!
DON'T TRUST HIM, WIZ! HE'S TRYIN' TO STALL FOR TIME!
THE TRAPSTER IS RIGHT! ALL I NEED ARE ANOTHER FEW MINUTES...!
15

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

PLAY 1965 BIG LEAGUE BASEBALL GAMES

- PITCHING
- HITTING
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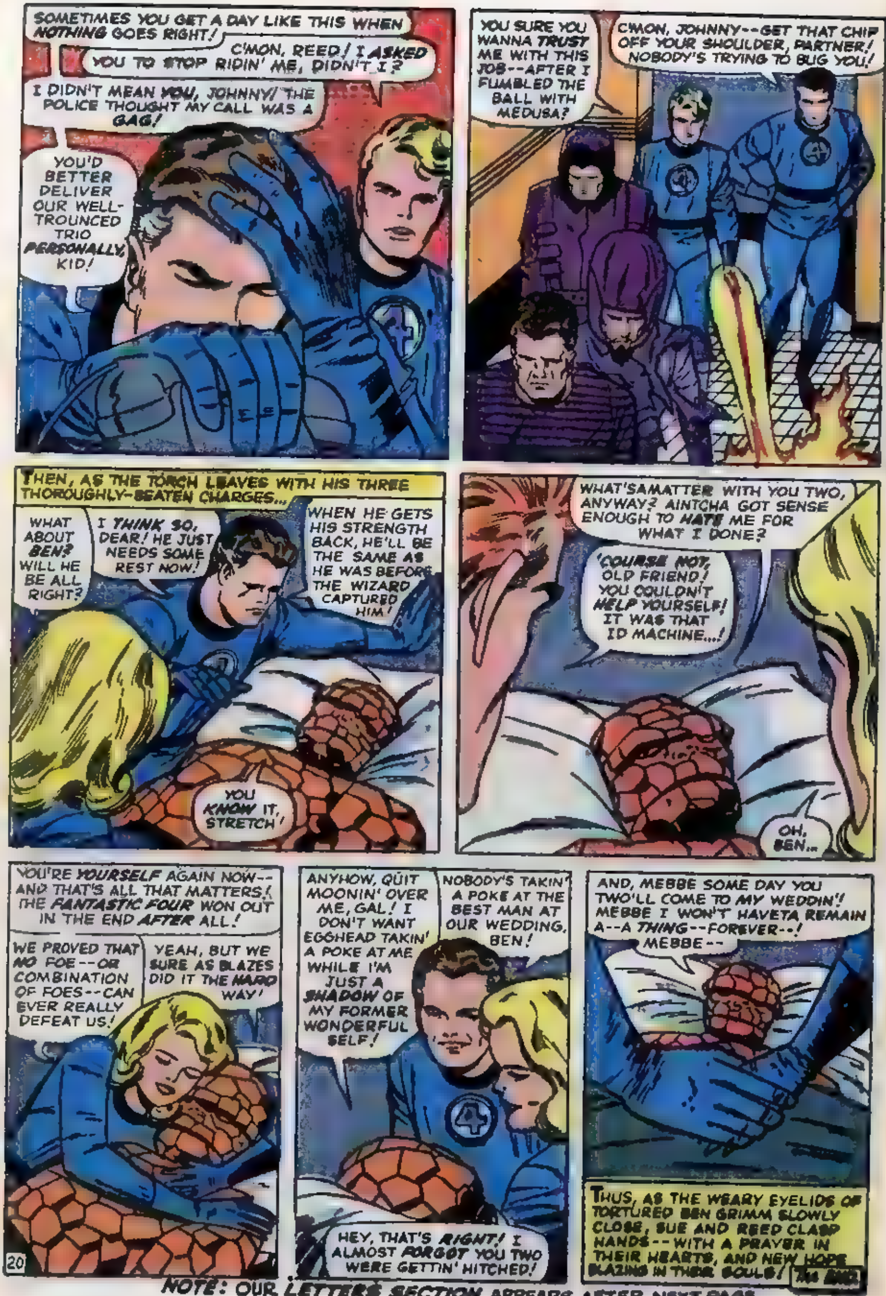
HOLD THE SANDMAN, SUE! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE TRAPSTER!
THE THING IS OUT AGAIN! NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO FINISH RICHARDS! GET HIM!
BUT--WHAT ABOUT JOHNNY? HE'S STILL MAGNETIZED TO THAT DEADLY DISC!
HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT, DARLING! WITH THE WIZARD'S MASTER CONTROL SMASHED, THE DISC WILL HAVE LOST ITS POWER! THE TORCH CAN FLAME ON AGAIN!
AND, DIRECTLY OUTSIDE THE THIRTY-FIFTH FLOOR OF THE BAXTER BUILDING, THE EVENT WHICH GREETS OUR EYES PROVES ONCE AGAIN THAT AMONG THE WORLD'S MOST DARING STRATEGISTS, REED RICHARDS IS STILL THE UNCHALLENGED MASTER!
THE DISC LOST ITS POWER! AND I'VE REGAINED MINE! THIS IS WHAT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR...!
CAN AN UNINVITED GUEST CRASH YOUR LITTLE PARTY, GANG?
YOU CAN RELAX YOUR FORCE FIELD, SIS! I'LL KEEP THESE CREEPS BUSY FOR A WHILE!
JOHNNY! OH, THANK HEAVENS!
THE TORCH! NOW WE'RE IN FER IT!
17

I'LL TAKE THAT PASTE GUN, TRAPSTER! WHERE YOU'RE GOING, YOU WON'T BE NEEDING IT!
THIS WAS ALL YOUR IDEA, WIZARD! SO, WHAT DO WE DO NOW, BIG BRAIN??
I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND! I HAD EVERYTHING FIGURED OUT PERFECTLY! WHAT WENT WRONG?
JUST ONE THING, BUB--YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE THE EQUAL OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR --AND NOBODY IS!
STAY BACK, TORCH! WE GET THE IDEA!
THEY'VE FORGOTTEN ME! I CAN STILL ESCAPE!
REED! JOHNNY! MEDUSA SWUNG THRU THE WINDOW BY HER HAIR!
I'LL CATCH HER WITH MY FORCE FIELD!
YOU'VE DONE YOUR SHARE, SIS!
JOHNNY! GET OUT OF THE WAY!
LET ME HANDLE THIS!
THERE SHE GOES--INTO THE WIZARD'S ANTI-GRAV SHIP! I CAN STILL STOP HER!
BUT, WHAT AM I HESITATING FOR? WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO ME--? WHY CAN'T I DO WHAT MUST BE DONE?
THAT ONE-SECOND DELAY WAS ALL IT TOOK TO ALLOW HER TO ESCAPE! WHY DID I DO IT?
WAS IT BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO FIGHT A GIRL? OR--WAS IT SOMETHING MORE--?

THAT WAS FAST WORK, JOHNNY! I'M JUST CALLING THE POLICE NOW!
WAIT! WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE'S MEDUSA?
DID SHE GET AWAY?
YEAH! SHE TOOK OFF IN THE ANTI-GRAV SHIP! I COULDN'T CATCH IT!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, BOY! YOU HAD TIME ENOUGH TO REACH HER BEFORE SHE COULD ENTER THE SHIP!
OKAY, OKAY! SO, I GOOFED FOR ONCE! GET OFF MY BACK, WILLYA!
DON'T GET RILED, KID! I THINK I UNDERSTAND! SHE'S AN EXTREMELY ATTRACTIVE FEMALE!
LET IT RIDE, HUH? I DON'T WANNA TALK ABOUT IT!
SECONDS LATER, AT THE NEIGHBORING POLICE PRECINCT...
HELLO... SGT. DONNEGAN, OF THE 31ST! WHAT'S THE PROBLEM, MAC?
HOPE IT'S NOT ANOTHER OF THOSE CRANK CALLS, SARGE! THERE'S BEEN A RASH OF THEM ALL DAY!
WHAT'S THAT? WOULD YOU REPEAT WHAT YOU SAID, SIR?
I SAID I'VE GOT THE FRIGHTFUL FOUR UNDER WRAPS FOR YOU! THREE OF THEM, ANYWAY! YOU CAN PICK THEM UP ANY TIME!
YEAH? NEXT YOU'LL BE SAYIN' YOU'RE MR. FANTASTIC! I'M NOT BUYIN', SMART GUY!
19



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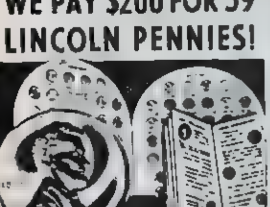

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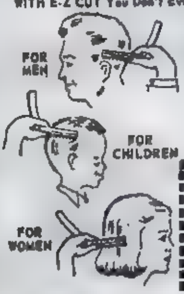

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Fantastic Four (4) Fan Page

Send letters to: LEE and KIRBY
THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP
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—Well, it looks as though we're finally back to normal with the world's greatest adventure team. And, we'll let it seem that way till next month, because we wouldn't want to spoil your enjoyment of the letters that follow by worrying you about the new and startling problem which awaits our fabulous foursome! So, with an untroubled mind, calm and relaxed, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, we invite you to see what your fellow Marvelites have been cogitating about for the past month . . .

Dear Stan and Jack,

Congratulations on the best FANTASTIC FOUR mag ever—#39! I've read many F.F.'s and they are all good, but #39 hit the jackpot with me, and I'm sure with many other fans. The plot was wonderful and Daredevil made a spectacular scene. The F.F. lost their powers but they've got to get them back. I don't know how but I have faith in them! I plead with you that when they do get their powers back Ben Grimm won't look like a monster anymore.

Tim McCray, 1298-A Symington Dr.
Rantoul, Ill.

He never *did* look like a monster to us, Tim! In fact, most of our female readers (bless 'em!) seem to have mad crushes on our sulking strongman! Who knows, he may make orange-colored lumpy skin fashionable some day—and *then* where'll we be?

—Probably the most unnecessary statement we can make is to tell you that the greatest Annual on sale this year is the spectacular FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL! It features a brand-new blockbuster which will be talked about as long as the Marvel Age endures—"The Wedding of Reed and Sue!" But, the big news is this—there are more super-heroes and incredible villains in this dazzling drama than you've ever seen in any single story—or in any half-dozen stories! You'll meet almost every Marvel character in existence in this breath-taking tale! Most of your own favorites are featured—plus many whom you've long since forgotten about, and some you may have missed! If you buy no other magazine this year, the mind-staggering FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL is the one to get! 'Nuff said!

Dear Stan and Jack,

You finally did it! In one great issue you not only brought back the iron-clad, cold-hearted, caped, most villainous villain of all time—Dr. Doom—but to top that off, you chucked in the red-garbed, sightless, cane-carrying, fearless, legal eagle, Daredevil! The very idea of Dr Doom, of all people, getting hold of the F.F. Headquarters at a time when they had lost their powers was unique! Daredevil was never better in his own mag than he was in this. Also, I don't think you'll get too many letters complaining about this being a two-parter. By the way, just who is Irving Forbush??

Rick Paul, 315 S. Woodstock Dr.
Cherry Hill, N. J.

We're saving that juicy little tidbit for a surprise, R.P.! Some day, when Marveldom least expects it, we'll present the whole sticky sordid saga of the world's most unknown celebrity!

—Before we forget, the THOR ANNUAL and the SGT. FURY ANNUAL are also on sale now! It's the first ish for both, and the gang in the bullpen really knocked themselves out to make sure they'll be the hits they deserve to be! The THOR ANNUAL features the battle which all of fandom has been clamoring for—"Thor vs. Hercules"! Never have you seen such power—such drama—such epic pageantry! And wait'll you see King Kirby's rendition of Hercules—he's like WOW! As for the SGT. FURY ANNUAL, it's merely magnificent! You'll see the Howlers battling in Korea—two decades after World War Two! They're older, tougher, and greater than ever—and you'll see Nick receive a battlefield commission for gallantry in action! We never expected a war mag to become one of our standout sensations, but this ish will show you why SGT. FURY is at the top of the mighty Marvel best-seller list!

Dear Stan and Jack,

Sometime back, I happened to lay my hands on some of your Marvel Magazines. They are really superb. All of my family members enjoy them the most and keenly await the next issue of each magazine every month. But to my disappointment I haven't been able to get any of your magazines for the last four months. The hunger for your beautiful classics is increasing day by day. It will not be out of place to mention here that your imaginations regarding scientific developments such as the sixth and seventh dimensions (AVENGERS #9) and repulser beams, and transistor power armor, etc, may some day come true as the imagination of Jules Verne is now coming true. In your mags, all of your stories are worth appreciation, together with the illustrations by Jack Kirby, Don Heck, and Wallace Wood in particular. I convey my best wishes to you and all your staff.

Shailendra Maheshwari,
Opp. Govt. Secondary Girls School
Katarotalab, Raipur, India

Shailendra, ol' friend, we're gonna make up a package of our latest mags and ship 'em right off to you! We can't wait to see the expressions on the faces of Jim and Mac, our mailroom commandos, when they see your address! They're even impressed when we get a letter from Hoboken!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

A Line-Up Of Some Of The Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

SPIDER-MAN #29: Hang onto your hat! The Scorpion is back—more dangerous than ever! Never has Spidey battled more desperately! Never have you thrilled to a greater action tale!

AVENGERS #20: Fans everywhere are talking about the unexpected drama, the powerful appeal of this newest of Marvel fighting groups! You too will gape in wonder at what befalls the Swordsman!

X-MEN #13: Of all the super-villains since time immemorial, possibly none have ever equalled the Juggernaut in sheer power or stark savagery! And now, he faces the seemingly helpless X-men!

DAREDEVIL #9: A completely different type of adventure for D.D.! He dares to invade a killer's castle in another country, and runs into one of the strangest dangers any costumed hero has ever faced. Also, he finally consents to an eye operation, and—but why not see for yourself?

THOR #120: All we have to tell you about this sensational issue is that it features the return of one of Thor's most spectacular foes! Because you demanded him we present the return of the Absorbing Man!

STRANGE TALES #137: Nick Fury, Agent of Shield, realizes that Hydra has finally begun its most daring attack upon the human race! Also, you'll see the battle you never expected when Dr. Strange confronts the Ancient One himself!

SUSPENSE #70: Iron Man reaches new heights of glory in this unforgettable saga of the Titanium Man, as death once again embraces a Marvel character! While Captain America's dilemma is too fearful to describe on this page!

ASTONISH #72: The imagination of Stan Lee—the art of Adam Austin—make Sub-Mariner's thriller a breath-taking spectacle as Lady Dorma meets a dreadful fate! As for the Hulk, this one has to be seen to be believed!

SGT. FURY #22: Only mighty Marvel could present an epic like this! Against the background of World War Two's famous Ploesti air raid, Fury and Bull McGiveney fight their own private war, as only they can! It's a swingin', slam-bang sensation!

Dear Stan and Jack,

FANTASTIC FOUR #39 was great as usual, but you made several mistakes, as usual. The F.F. were supposed to be on the USS Sea Hawk. One of the men had a shirt that said USS Shark! On page 9 Matt Murdock said he was the FF's lawyer. In DAREDEVIL #2 they fired him! On page 9, Mr. Fantastic's arm was blue and on page 10 it wasn't. On page 11 you spelled Gomer Pyle wrong. On

page 17 you spelled *vortex* wrong. On page 10 Matt Murdock says, "Of course, Mr. Murdock," and he is talking to Reed Richards! In STRANGE TALES #133, the Torch and the Thing have their powers and they lose them in F.F. #39. Even though you made a lot of mistakes like you always do, all the Marvel mags this month were great.

Tim White, P.O. Box 498
Athens, Texas

Cheeee! You call *those* mistakes, Timmy? You should see the ones we throw away!

—Special note: We want to thank the editors of New York's famous VILLAGE VOICE for the wonderful write-up they gave the Marvel Group, and the FANTASTIC FOUR and SPIDER-MAN in particular. We're frankly flattered and pleased as punch! 'Nuff said!

Dear Stan and Jack,

As a Merry Marvel Marcher, when the legislature of Indiana decided to make a movie about Indiana and decided to use our school for actors (of course they picked my section!) I wore my brilliant M.M.M.S. pin during the shooting, thus putting in a plug for our fab club. So, any day now, I predict you'll be slapped with a juicy lawsuit! Your club is so "in" I enclose another dollar. I want to join again.

Preston Sinks, 1651 DeSoto Lane
Speedway, Indiana

You're tempting us, Preston, but we'll try to resist the sinister urge to offer a brand-new shiny no-prize to the Merry Marcher who joins the most times! After all, it wouldn't be fair to stingy Stan who only has three membership pins to his name!

CHEE! Have you noticed the sorry mess of Marvel IMITATIONS making the scene lately? Imitation may be the sincerest form of flattery and all that jazz, but we wanna make darn sure no dyed-in-the-wool Marvel madman gets stuck with one of those inferior "Brand Echh" versions of the real thing!

So, lull yourself to sleep each night with these imperishable words: "It isn't a Marvel masterpiece unless it SAYS Marvel on the cover trademark!" Don't ever settle for less—you're too important to us! Remember—we found you first!

Dear Stan and Jack,

The Yancy Street Irregulars at their last meeting voted unanimously to organize a chapter of the Merry Marvel Marching Society here at Columbia University. Therefore, we enclose a money order for five dollars, a list of members, and the wish that we be declared the official Columbia University Chapter of the M.M.M.S.

Fred Lerner, Arachnophile-in-Chief, 926 Furnald Hall
Columbia College, New York, N. Y.

It's not that easy, Freddie! First, you have to pass the Trial of the Gods at Asgard—then, Sub-Mariner conducts his own hazing in Atlantis—after which you're obliged to spend midnight locked in the sub-basement of the Baxter Building! But, in your case we'll make an exception—find us a blind date for the Thing's Aunt Petunia, and you're in!

—1965 may go down in history as the year of Marvel's greatest Annuals! Not only are we setting the magazine-reading world on its ear with the great F.F. ANNUAL, but we've bestowed upon a waiting world three more of the most jam-packed 25¢ editions we could put together! You might as well make a clean sweep and buy 'em all—if you can still find them! You swingin' SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL features three Spidey classics from his earliest days, besides leading off with a full-length original yarn, featuring the master of the mystic arts—Dr. Strange! It's the kind of wonderful, whacky story you never expected Peter Parker to star in, and has more tantalizing plot twists than a hairpin! So, what are you waiting for?

—We'd never forgive ourselves if we forgot to tell you that the MARVEL TALES ANNUAL goes on sale Aug. 1st! It features the complete "Origin of the Avengers"—the complete "Origin of the X-Men"—the complete "Origin of Dr. Strange"—a complete tale of the incredible Hulk, from the bygone days when he was featured in his own magazine—and other surprises. With a lineup like that, who needs a hard sell! Just get to your newsstand early!

Dear Stan and Jack,

I want to comment on issue #39 of FANTASTIC FOUR. I think the story had a great plot and could have been a very successful story except for Daredevil leading the group. He was much too conceited when he said "*You* can't, but *Daredevil* can." He repeated this arrogance in other parts of the story. I like Daredevil, he's great and all, but it's the F.F.'s book and I think they should have made some of the decisions. Also, I spotted a mistake on page 10 in the third panel when Matt Murdock was talking to Reed Richards. When referring to Reed, Murdock said, "Of course, Mr. Murdock!" This letter doesn't mean that I don't like your group any more, and I don't think you thought that, because I read all of your mags and though I find mistakes, I find good excuses for your having made them. Also, I plan to join MMMS as soon as I get a buck.

Randy Risedorf, 61 Philadelphia Ave.
Massapequa Park, N. Y.

Now *there's* a laudable ambition if ever we heard of one! And incidentally, Randy, if you can find good excuses for our mistakes, send 'em to *us*, willya? We've just about run out of them!

—We've just got room to say we hope you're enjoying your nutty Marvel T-shirts as well as your swingin' stationery! We're working like mad to bring you many other unusual and exciting items in the months to come, so keep watching. And remember to keep your M.M.M.S. membership pin in a safe place—it's becoming the biggest "in" thing in town!

Dear Stan and Jack,

First, I would like to thank you for bringing to me so many hours of enjoyable and exciting reading. I really think that the FF is the greatest magazine I ever slapped 12¢ on the counter for. When I finished reading issue #39, I thought you had struck out! I wasn't too sure about buying the next issue, but when it arrived at the newsstand I thought that I might as well give it a try again (since I didn't want to hurt your feelings). Well, to tell the truth, the reason I'm writing this letter is to congratulate you for putting out one of the best endings to a FF story in a long time. #40 to me is one of the top-ranking issues of all, very well written, drawn, inked and lettered. I haven't joined the M.M.M.S. yet, but I plan to join as soon as I get my dollar (which doesn't grow on trees). So, as you guys would say, "Face Front, and Keep Marching." I have only one more thing to say: "Make Mine Marvel!"

Steve Rosenfield, 151 Cooper Rd.
West Haven, Conn.

For a guy who hasn't joined the merry ones yet, you've sure got our slogans down pat, Stevey! But don't tell Jolly Jack that money doesn't grow on trees—he spends all his spare time planting seeds and hoping!

—FACE FRONT! We're not finished with you yet! We can't cut out without telling you that a new phase in the lives of the F.F. will begin next ish—and we want you to be there at the start! So, whatever you do, wherever you go, don't dare miss FANTASTIC FOUR #44—it's the start of a new Marvel era—another giant step forward in our march to magazine immortality! Or, in the wise words of time-honored Irving Forbush: "It's only 12¢—what can ya lose?"

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11. Hello Dolly
12. The Shoop Shoop Song
13. I Want To Hold Your Hand
14. As Usual
15. Um, Um, Um, Um, Um, Um,
16. Surfin' Bird
17. Anyone Who Had A Heart
18. Somewhere
19. Romeo And Juliet
20. Love Me With All Your Heart
21. The Name Game
22. Tell Her No
23. All Day And All of the Night
24. This Diamond Ring
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26. The Jolly Green Giant
27. Blue Velvet
28. Busted
29. Hello Heartache, Goodbye Love
30. Be My Baby
31. Then He Kissed Me
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33. Do You Love Me
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